the *Cynocephali* alone is any thing of this kind seen, and in them the lower of these two sulci only (*n*, *n*).

The anterior transverse (parietal) fissure (*d*, *d*) commences externally between the two small sulci just described (*e*, *e* and *n*, *n*). After running forward and upward it bends, turning slightly backwards to the middle line, *where it is continued downwards upon the median surface of the hemisphere for a short distance*, as in no species described by Gratiolet.

The three-way convolution of the frontal lobe (*fff*) resembles that in the *Cynocephali*—the *Semnopitheci*, *Macaci*, and *Cercopitheci* almost or entirely lacking its posterior limb, which is well represented in the Geladas and Baboons.

Small independent sulci are more numerous than in *Macacus* and *Cercopithecus*—about as many as in the *Cynocephali*, with which the Gelada most agrees in size.

Correlation of the facts above recorded makes me place *Gelada* along with *Cercopithecus* and *Cynocephalus* away from *Macacus*. Its affinities with *Cercopithecus* seem to me more intimate than with *Cynocephalus*, to which *genus* it most certainly does not belong.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE XXXVIII.

Brain of *Gelada rueppelli*, natural size.

Fig. 1. Right hemisphere, outer aspect.
2. ,, ,, inner aspect.
3. ,, ,, superior aspect.
4. ,, ,, inferior aspect.

4. Notes on and Description of the Female of *Ceriornis blythii*, Jerdon. By Lieut.-Col. H. H. Godwin-Austen, F.Z.S.

[Received May 15, 1879.]

(Plate XXXIX.)

I have much pleasure in exhibiting the female of the rare *Ceriornis blythii*, which up to the present time was unknown[1]. For the acquisition of this bird, and our further knowledge of the species, I am indebted to Capt. W. Brydon, of the 42nd Assam Light Infantry, who obtained several of this species in the Aughami Naga hills. He tried very hard to bring two of them to England alive,

[1] Since this paper was read we have received vol. vii. No. 6, of 'Stray Feathers.' At p. 472 is a paper by Mr. A. O. Hume on this species, which leaves the true plumage of the female still in some state of uncertainty. Either the bird described by him is a female in a younger stage of plumage, or Capt. Brydon and Lieut. Macgregor, who have kept these birds in captivity, are mistaken as to the female putting on the red colour about the neck and thus assimilating the plumage of the male to this extent.—H. H. G.-A.

but without success; one, which he brought safely down to Calcutta and embarked on board ship, died from accidental exposure to sea-water after leaving Colombo. The history of the first discovery of this bird was given by Dr. Jerdon in the 'Proceedings of the Asiatic Society of Bengal,' 1870, p. 59; and he then very appropriately named it after one who had laboured so long and so ably at Indian ornithology.

Curious to say, the first bird ever obtained from the natives was brought to England alive, together with the still very rare and then new species, *Lophophorus sclateri*, and both were finally deposited in the Society's Gardens, where they lived a short time. The only other specimen I know of the latter bird was also obtained by Capt. Brydon at Saddya, and is now in the Indian Museum, Calcutta.

A full account of both species, by Mr. P. L. Sclater, is to be found in the P. Z. S. for 1870, p. 162, with figures drawn by Mr. Keulemans.

In Elliot's 'Monograph of the Phasianidæ,' a splendid drawing is given of the male of *C. blythii*, unfortunately represented sitting on a pine tree; no pines, however, are to be found in that portion of the Burrail range occupied by this bird, although *Pinus khasiana* comes in at a lower altitude in the more open country further east and west.

CERIORNIS BLYTHII ♀. (Plate XXXIX.)

Ceriornis blythii, Jerdon, P. A. S. B. 1870, p. 60.

♀ (by dissection, *Brydon*). Head above black, with ear-coverts and a broadish line down the side of the upper neck of the same colour; above the eyes a dark orange-red line commences, and extends back beyond the occiput. The back is uniformly and finely mottled with umber-black and ochre, some of the feathers on the upper margin having two small terminal chestnut spots, with a minute white central and terminal ocellus between them. This spotting disappears towards the upper tail-coverts, which are tipped with rusty brown. The tail is irregularly barred with mottled ochre and black. Chin and throat whitish, each feather narrowly margined black. The nape and upper breast of a rich orange-chestnut colour, somewhat duller than in the male, followed posteriorly by plumage of a pale umber ground, more or less finely mottled with the umber-black, which increases on the flanks, while some of the feathers have terminal ashy spots margined black, and white-shafted. These feathers on the abdomen merge into feathers dark-tipped as seen against the paler hue of that part. The thighs are narrowly barred dull black and ochre, a few of the thigh-coverts tipped dull white. The wing is more richly mottled with ruddy ochre and black, the former colour merging into sienna-brown on the indistinct barring of the primaries. No spurs.

Dimensions: wing 9·75, tail 6·5, tarsus 3·5 inches; of a male in my possession, which was the second specimen obtained, the wing is 10·9 inches.

In my 4th List of Birds from N.E. Frontier (J. A. S. B. 1874,

p. 172), the true habitat of this species is recorded, viz. the Burrail range, at from 6000 to 10,000 feet.

The following extracts from a letter written by Lieut. Macgregor, of the 44th Sylhet Light Infantry, on the habits of *Ceriornis* are very interesting; and I cannot do better than give the observations in his own words:—"This bird inhabits the high ranges of the Naga hills; it is found at altitudes ranging from 9000 to 5000 feet, most frequently on the Burrail range, near Khonomah. The Nagas say that it does not migrate, but in the winter months it descends from the higher ranges down to 5000 feet. This is the season that specimens of the bird are generally obtained. The *modus operandi* is as follows:—Nooses are placed in the paths that the birds are known to frequent, and a large number of men are employed as beaters: they drive the birds before them slowly and quietly up to the traps (if they made too much noise probably the birds would take to flight). The specimens that I have now in my possession eat worms and a kind of red berry. One that I had last year in the Naga hills used to eat *dhan* (unhusked rice). Out of three that were brought away from the hills only one arrived alive in Calcutta; but this was in the hot weather. The young female has a plumage very like that of a hen Floriken (*Sypheotides bengalensis*); when it gets older it assumes a plumage more like the cock, becoming red on the throat and on the back. The cry of the birds is like the sound 'ank' repeated several times. The Nagas give the bird the name of 'Née.' The Nagas say that the Argus lays three eggs; but as this was in answer to a *leading question*, I cannot vouch for it."

As *Polyplectron chinquis* and two species of *Ceriornis* are mentioned in a paper by Mr. Sclater read before this Society a short time ago, as laying only two eggs, it is very probable that the Naga information is accurate; for these people have a wonderful knowledge of all the beasts and birds and of their habits. In such forests, and exposed to so much danger from many formidable enemies, the parent birds can seldom rear more than two at a time: they are driven to roost in the low trees in comparative safety; and in such a position the hen could only take one chick under each wing. A greater number of eggs could be only a waste of life, and would, if hatched out, only encumber the mother, and possibly lead to her own destruction; for it must be remembered that in dense forests, cats and other small predatory mammals have the great advantage of being able to stalk their prey, and approach unseen to within a yard or two.